

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

March 16, 1999

FROM: DICK DWYER, Assistant Director  
Department of Behavioral Health

SUBJECT: **MENTAL HEALTH BILLING RATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1999**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and file Department of Behavioral Health proposed third party and Medi-Cal billing rates, effective April 1, 1999, as indicated:

		Existing Billing Rate	Proposed Billing Rate
<b>24-Hour Care Services - Inpatient Rate Per Day</b>	Third Party	\$721.00	\$752.00
	Medi-Cal	\$632.00	\$654.00
<b>Mental Health (MH) Services - Collateral Rate Per Minute</b>	Third Party	\$2.33	\$1.83
	Medi-Cal	\$1.50	\$1.59
<b>MH Services - Assessment Rate Per Minute</b>	Third Party	\$2.07	\$1.83
	Medi-Cal	\$1.50	\$1.59
<b>MH Services - Evaluation Rate Per Minute</b>	Third Party	\$1.83	\$1.83
	Medi-Cal	\$1.50	\$1.59
<b>MH Services - Individual Rate Per Minute</b>	Third Party	\$1.73	\$1.83
	Medi-Cal	\$1.50	\$1.59
<b>MH Services - Group Rate Per Minute</b>	Third Party	\$1.74	\$1.83
	Medi-Cal	\$1.50	\$1.59

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: As needed, the Department of Behavioral Health adjusts rates for services based upon actual direct and indirect costs per unit of service incurred through the fiscal year. The third party payor updated billing rate applies to all third party payors other than Medi-Cal, and includes administrative and utilization review costs. The Medi-Cal rate is established per Short/Doyle Medi-Cal requirements and is based upon actual direct and indirect costs to date excluding administrative and utilization costs, which are claimed separately to Medi-Cal at fiscal year end. The State's annual year-end Short/Doyle Medi-Cal cost report settlement process is based upon either the lower of actual costs or charges (billing rates). The billing rates are designed to insure adequate reimbursement to the Department throughout the fiscal year.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This billing rate change has been reviewed and approved as to form by Deputy County Counsel Charles J. Larkin.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The Department of Behavioral Health as certified by the State as a Community Mental Health Clinic, is reimbursed by third party payors based on charges. Medi-Cal rates are reimbursed by the State based on the lower of costs or charges. The rates established in this transmittal are based upon actual costs to date including direct and indirect costs. These rates are designed to insure adequate reimbursement to the Department and have no fiscal impact to the County's general fund.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Dick Dwyer, Assistant Director

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